

The Alumni Columns
Northwestern State University
Natchitoches, LA 71497

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FEW THINGS IN LIFE WARM THE
HEART MORE THAN OLD FRIENDS.
EXCEPT NEW ONES.



WE NEED ALL OUR OLD FRIENDS AND MANY NEW ONES TO CONTINUE TO
EXPAND OUR SUPPORT OF NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY.

ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP.
GIVE TO THE ANNUAL FUND.



Northwestern State University

ALUMNI COLUMNS

Alumni Magazine

Spring 1993



Debate Team Ranked #1 Nationally



Elise James

Dear Northwestern Graduate:

Thanks to all of you that liked my fall letter and wrote or called to tell me so. This university is so important to me and each of you is so very important to the university.

Springtime, what a wonderful time to be in Natchitoches and on the Northwestern campus. Students are back and the spring semester is another success for your Alma Mater.

This office has been working with the Admissions Office and the Scholar's College personnel in hosting Alumni/Recruiting parties around the state. We have invited Alumni and those two areas have invited interested students to attend these events to learn about the great programs and activities at Northwestern. We have been to Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Shreveport, Alexandria, and Monroe. All areas were enthusiastic and students were eager to hear about us.

Spring looks to be a very busy time for the Alumni Office and we are always looking for ways to make our programs better. If you ever have suggestions please do not hesitate to let us know.

A very special event that will take place in Shreveport is the NSU Night At the Strand. The Strand is a very beautiful theatre that has been renovated to be used to stage musical and theatrical productions. We are promoting this as a very formal event that we hope will "showcase" our university. The Northwestern Creative and Performing Arts Department has named their production: Bernstein! Musical Extravaganza. We look for this venture to be a big success and invite all Alumni to attend on Saturday, April 24, 1993.

Another very successful spring event is the Annual Chris Roper Memorial Golf Tournament to be held this year on Saturday, April 24, 1993 at the Robert W. Wilson Recreation Complex. Please call (318) 357-4414 for information or to enter. This tournament raises money for scholarships for the golf team and is always so much fun.

Closing out the spring schedule will be the Second Diploma presentation for the Class of 1943 - Fifty Years after they received their first diploma. They will march with the graduating class and receive diplomas from Dr. Robert Alost. There will be a reception preceding graduation. All members of this class will receive invitations to their celebration.

Thanks again for staying so very interested in Northwestern and all it stands for by participating in the activities that we plan. Have a great summer and I will visit again with you in the fall.

Sincerely,

Elise P. James
Director of Development
and Alumni Affairs

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Monroe, 1941
Secretary-Treasurer.....Elise James
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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

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About the cover: The Northwestern debate team members who are featured in this issue are (seated front to back) Jason Trice, Jon Dean (graduate assistant), (standing left to right) Jason Foote, Todd Graham (director of debate) Buddy Hays, Sean Lemoine and Bryan Eldredge.

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Office of the President

Dear NSU Alumni:

Louisiana's ongoing fiscal crisis has increased the importance of grants, private gifts and other supplementary financial support for Northwestern and other public colleges and universities throughout the state.

Higher education funding was reduced by \$45 million at mid-year because of inadequate state revenues to meet budget commitments. That cutback, which cost NSU \$1.5 million from its 1992-93 allocation, marked the 11th state funding cut for universities in the past decade.

Because of declining state revenues since the mid-1980's, colleges and universities in Louisiana have aggressively pursued supplementary funding from alumni, business and industry, private foundations and other individuals and organizations to enhance specific academic areas.

Most universities are attempting to obtain private funding for professorships and endowed chairs, because the state provides funds from dedicated offshore oil and gas revenues to match those gifts. Universities which raise \$60,000 for professorships receive matching funds of \$40,000 from the state, and schools that receive \$600,000 for endowed chairs obtain matching state funds of \$400,000.

Northwestern's first professorship was provided by the Magale family to support academic programs in music and the fine arts. The university has also received sufficient funding for a professorship in business in honor of former department chairman Noble Morrison.

This Spring, NSU received the largest private gift in its history from the Coughlin-Saunders Foundation, which pledged \$60,000 a year over a five-year period. Matching state funds will increase that fund to a half-million dollars for nursing programs in the Alexandria area.

The university is indeed grateful to all of the individuals, organizations and businesses which provide funding for those professorships, and we encourage other alumni and friends of Northwestern to make similar financial commitments to enhance the quality of academic programs provided by the institution.

Northwestern—like other universities across Louisiana—will expand and intensify in the months ahead its efforts to generate private funding to help offset continual losses in revenue from the state. You are encouraged to support these efforts in every way possible for the benefit of higher education in general and your Alma Mater in particular.

Thank you for your support of Northwestern over the years, and please continue that support as you are called upon in future months for financial gifts that will help us maintain the enormous growth and progress that the university has enjoyed in recent years.



Sincerely,

Robert A. Alost
President

DEBATE



Tournament preparation takes about 30 hours a week from each team member. Pictured in the foreground are Bryan Eldredge, Buddy Hays and in the background is Jason Foote.

No one can argue that the view from the top is the best around. Just ask Todd Graham, debate coach at Northwest ern and the members of his winning team. NSU's debate team, in existence for only three years, has attained the number one ranking in the country over debate teams from over 300 colleges and universities nationwide.

"Well, I never really thought we could do this well in this amount of time," says Graham as he leans back in his chair in the team squad room. Behind him trophies covering an entire wall reflect the light of the team's phenomenal success over the last three years.

The debate team established itself at NSU during the Fall Semester of 1990 and managed to finish the season in April, 1991 with a ranking of 21st in the nation. That spring the team won the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomer Award for the best new debate program in the country. Not bad for the new kids on the block. In April, 1992 the team finished fourth in the U.S. at the National Debate Tournament held at the University of Texas-Arlington.

From the word "go" there's been no slowing down for NSU's debate team which was ranked first in the nation as of January 18. The team won four tournaments in a row between November and mid-January.

"We're on a winning streak. I haven't seen one this long in quite a while in debate," says Graham. "We're pleased as can be. I think the success we've seen is just an accumulation of the work that we've done."

Hard work is what this team is all about. "They work so hard," says Graham. Team members each put in as much as 30 hours per week, every week, researching and preparing for upcoming debate tournaments. That much work plus maintaining full-time student status and good grades amounts to a lot of dedication.

"You can see all this evidence. This is all research we've done this year," says Graham, pointing to half a room full of tables covered with crates crammed full of research material. "They work hard enough to make themselves good. They want to be good," he says.

Because the debate topic for each term is assigned to teams nationwide only two to three weeks before the first tournament of a term, debaters have to shift into high gear to get prepared. The Fall term topic is assigned September 3 and the Spring topic is assigned December 10 of each year.

The debate team at Northwestern is lucky to have a debate coach like Graham and assistant coach John Dean who are dedicated to the debate program and to team members. Graham wants to maintain the program with four two-person teams. That way, he says, "the coaching staff can devote the time to the students."

Graham, originally from Kansas City, Kansas, earned a bachelor's degree at Missouri Southern University and a master's degree at Kansas State University in Manhattan. At Kansas State, he served as assistant debate coach for a large winning debate team. When NSU President Dr. Robert Alost began the debate program at NSU, Graham was recommended to him by Kansas State and Southern Illinois Universities, who, at the time, were two of the top three debate schools in the U.S. It

seems that a winning spirit follows Graham wherever he goes.

Assistant debate coach John Dean is a graduate of UCLA who has been at NSU since August and will be at NSU until August of this year when he will leave to attend law school at the University of California-Berkeley. UCLA has one of the tough teams Northwestern has managed to defeat recently. Asked how it feels for NSU to beat his alma mater's team, Dean says it feels "kinda nice!"

Each year, Graham selects from college students who want to debate and attends high school debate tournaments to recruit debaters for Northwestern. "This year the recruiting is going very well. I have a lot of students to choose from. I'm very selective," says Graham. Students must have debated in high school to be considered.

"It's like a basketball coach goes to high schools and tries to recruit the best players. I go to tournaments and try to recruit the best debaters," he says.

Graham believes Northwestern has a lot to offer prospective debaters. For example, NSU offers scholarships for debate team members. "One of the reasons we can recruit so many students is that they can study anything they want and they can study at the Scholars' College as well," says Graham. "We have a nice talent pool to choose from at NSU. We have a lot of bright students here."

Graham believes in his team and believes in Northwestern. "We have a small school and the debate program is small and can provide personalized attention. We have a nice area. Everybody seems to love Natchitoches. I've never had a person who comes to visit the campus that doesn't end up coming here," he says. "They see it and they like it."

NSU debate team members like what they are doing. "We all came out of high school very prepared for debate," says Jason Foote a native of Lafayette and a senior at the Scholars' College emphasizing in humanities and social thought. "The team members all had a lot of talent, but it wasn't concentrated. After three years of being coached by Todd and John, we're doing so well. We're all working to the best of our ability now," he says. Foote is preparing to attend law school after graduating from the Scholars' College.

Team members each have their reasons for enjoying debate. "I enjoy the competition," says Buddy Hays, senior mathematics major from Shreveport. "It's similar to athletics as far as being competitive, but it also challenges us intellectually." Hays has aspirations of being a sales representative after graduation.

66 We have a nice talent pool to choose from at NSU. We have a lot of bright students here. 99

Aside from just being fun, debate benefits students in a variety of ways. "To be a good, competitive debater requires several skills that you can use in your other classes," says Graham. For example, research skills become highly developed in a debater.

"They say that 90% of a lawyer's time is spent reading and writing. Well, that's 90% of a debater's time as well," says Graham. "We spend a lot more time putting together information in the library and in the squad room than we do in actually debating rounds at tournaments. I'm sure that the people on my squad could find anything in the library that is required of them," he says. "It helps them with research in any of their other classes."

Other advantages to debate are the development of organizational and note-taking skills. "Their organizational skills are very good. They are able to write papers a lot better, to organize their thoughts," says Graham. "You have to take notes at a debate tournament of what the other team says. They have good listening skills. They could take notes for a lecture and miss almost no word here at school."

Critical thinking skills play an important role in debate as well as in all other aspects of a person's life. "After you've been a debater awhile, you tend to be what I call 'skeptical,'" says Graham. "When we grow up, we tend to believe just about anything we read and hear. Debate teaches you that there are always two sides to every issue. Always two sides."

Foote agrees that debate is beneficial. "I would encourage debate for anyone. It's generally a good activity to help you in life," he says. He feels that his debating experience has been good preparation for a future career in law. "It's the best thing I could have done to prepare for that," he says.

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Graham attributes the debate team's success to three things. "The first is administrative support," he says. "Dr. Alost started the program and has been very supportive ever since." Graham feels that a lack of administrative support can undermine a debate team's efforts to succeed. "You have to have administrative support. If you don't you're in trouble," he says.

The second, says Graham, is that he's "been able to recruit good debaters. They were good in high school and they're good debaters now." The third, and "maybe a little bit more important than both of those is that they work so hard," says Graham.

"To have a small school like this who currently has the best debate team in the country goes to say something for Natchitoches. I think it has helped make the university look great and helps us earn prestige and honor in academics."

Debater, Sean Lemoine, a junior sociology major from Pineville, has enjoyed being part of Northwestern's winning team. "Everybody knows us, and we have a lot of respect on the national circuit. That feels good."

"I'm not sure what will end up happening, but we're hoping to finish in the top three this year. We're really hoping to win," says Graham. "We went from no one ever hearing of us to being the national powerhouse in debate. When teams go to tournaments they know they have to beat us to win."

As for the view from the top, Graham adds, "it seems to me that we belong here. We're certainly one of the top five debate teams in the country. No doubt." Hays agrees with him, saying, "we like to win. It's something we always dreamed would happen. All the hard work has really paid off."



Spring enrollment reflects upward trend

Northwestern State University's trend of increasing enrollment continued in the spring semester. Northwestern set a spring registration record of 7,951 for the current term. This is the sixth time in seven semesters that Northwestern has established an enrollment record. The spring enrollment is an increase of 248 students over last spring's registration of 7,703. Last fall's enrollment at NSU was 8,412.

NSU president Dr. Robert Alost said "This record high spring semester enrollment reflects the dedication and hard work of faculty and staff members not only in recruitment efforts but also in the development of programs that make the university attractive to prospective students."

NSU has continued to increase its enrollment since 1986 when Alost became president. Enrollment has increased by 2,679 students since Alost took office, an increase of 51 percent.

Graduate enrollment showed a big increase, moving from 757 to 827. The total number of undergraduates increased from 6,946 to 7,107.

Freshman enrollment went from 2,987 to 2,918. The number of sophomores increased from 1,403 to 1,555 while junior enrollment increased from 1,079 to 1,087. Senior enrollment went from 1,448 to 1,547.

Northwestern hosted a national conference on preservation and transportation

The role of Natchitoches as a major starting point for overland travel to the Spanish territory in the southwest was a theme explored at the Historic Transportation Corridors Conference on the Northwestern campus in December.



Participating in the Historic Transportation Corridors Conference held on the Northwestern campus were Mary Johnston, wife of U.S. Senator, J. Bennett Johnston, NSU President Robert Alost, and Jerry Rogers, Associate Director for Cultural Resources for the National Park Service.

The two-day program featured over 50 papers discussing historic roads and routes as cultural landscapes. A cultural landscape can be defined as an area where the interaction between man and nature has created a unique whole. It can be an area that represents networks of communication and transport as well as a number of other interactions including gardens, fossil landscapes, and locations with religious, artistic or cultural associations.

Over 100 individuals from throughout the United States representing a broad scope of the nation's interest in preservation and transportation attended.

Organizations represented included the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Federal Highway Administration, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and the U.S. Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (US/ ICOMOS).

Moderator of the meeting was Blaine Cliver, Chief of the Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service.

In the keynote address Christina Cameron, Director General of Cultural Affairs for the Canadian Parks Service, defined working terms for the group and set a basic agenda for the sessions. Two other foreign speakers were David Jacques from English Heritage in London and Sandy Blair of the Australian Heritage Commission.

The participants were welcomed at the opening session by President Robert Alost of NSU, who cited Northwestern's role as an emerging center of historic preservation activities.

Mary Johnston, wife of U.S. Senator, J. Bennett Johnston, announced that President Bush had signed legislation designating Northwestern as the site of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

Jerry Rogers, Associate Director for Cultural Resources for the National Park Service, completed the welcoming remarks stating his satisfaction in the conference undertaking an important role in defining transportation routes as cultural landscapes as well as pleasure in seeing Northwestern working with the National Park Service on this and other important projects.

Following the two day program, the conference speakers traveled the El Camino Real to Nacogdoches, TX with a stop at Los Adaes, about 15 miles from campus in Robeline, to see the site of the first colonial capitol of the Spanish territory. After a working lunch in Nacogdoches, the group then flew to San Antonio for a final day of meetings to draft a document on the conference.

This final paper will become the basis of a presentation at the 1993 World Heritage Convention to recognize cultural landscapes for inclusion on the World Heritage List.

Another outcome of the Historic Transportation Corridors Conference will be the introduction in Congress of legislation authorizing a feasibility study for the El Camino Real from Los Adaes to the U.S. - Mexican border to be designated a national trail or route.

Coughlin-Saunders Foundation endows professorship in nursing

Northwestern will receive \$300,000 from the Coughlin-Saunders Foundation over the next five years to endow professorships in nursing and allied health programs in the Alexandria area. Matching state funds will increase the value of Coughlin-Saunders' grant to NSU to \$500,000.

The Coughlin-Saunders Foundation established the endowment fund at Northwestern earlier this month with a contribution of \$60,000. Those monies will be matched with a \$40,000 allocation this year from Louisiana's 8g Endowed Professorship Matching Program.

In accepting the \$60,000 check from Coughlin-Saunders and acknowledging the commitment from the foundation for similar grants over a five-year period, NSU president Dr. Robert Alost said, "The generous gift to Northwestern from this prestigious foundation will enhance the quality of nursing and allied health education programs in Central Louisiana."

Alost, who said the Coughlin-Saunders grant to NSU "represents the single largest private contribution in the history of the university," stated that the state's Endowed Professorship Matching Program "was established to encourage investments from the private sector in higher education."

The Northwestern president said the Coughlin-Saunders Foundation "has been involved for years in the support of meaningful and worthwhile programs that improve

the quality of life for people in this region, and all of us at Northwestern are honored to become associated with this organization in a continuing endeavor that will benefit this region, the state of Louisiana and the health care field in general."

With the contributions from Coughlin-Saunders and matching funds from the state, Northwestern will establish over the next five years five \$100,000 professorships in to support the work of NSU faculty in nursing and allied health programs in the Alexandria area.

Northwestern offers the BSN completion and Master's program for nursing in Alexandria. NSU's Division of Nursing also established recently a Nurse Practitioner Program in both Alexandria and Shreveport and plans to help meet the need for allied health and continuing education programs in nursing in the immediate future.

Dr. Arlene Airhart, director of the NSU Division of Nursing, said the grants from Coughlin-Saunders "will allow us to continue the tradition of excellence in education for which this foundation has become recognized. Gifts from the foundation have provided the framework for significant accomplishments in education and health care, and we are proud to become a part of the important work that is being done through the generosity of the Coughlin-Saunders Foundation."



Students receive professional support

Once a student reaches the campus of Northwestern State, the university's Office of Student Support Services wants to make sure the student stays at NSU and eventually earns a degree.

The Office of Student Support Services offers programs designed to improve the retention and graduation rate of low-income, disadvantaged or physically handicapped college students. The services are free and confidential to any Northwestern student who qualifies for assistance.

"We provide support for students who may not feel comfortable with themselves or NSU," said Director of Student Support Services Gail Jones. "The Service targets freshmen and sophomores, but we also are open to upperclassmen. We hope to increase retention rates.

"Our goal is to provide help for those students with special needs, we act as a motivational factor and encourage them to be successful. We strive to promote success and persistence."

"We help people succeed in college," said Bob Gaddis, a student support counselor. "That includes grades, staying in school and any problems they may encounter along the way." The services available at the office also include tutoring as well as counseling.

"It's really a great feeling to know we're making a difference in students' academic abilities," said Sharon Bryant, a 1992 NSU graduate in student personnel services and a peer counselor. "Actually having hands-on experience in student personnel services helps me to see the benefit of my degree."

The Service also has three full-time staff members, Gaddis, Don Barker and Janey Barnes, qualified to provide counseling and answer questions about available services. Counselors also maintain contact with students by teaching a one-hour course on orientation to all freshmen.

Ruth Ann Ellender Gray was involved in Purple Jackets, ABA, and the Canterbury Club. She has five children and resides in Thibodaux.

'16 Grace Brignac is a former teacher and recently attended the 1930-42 reunion for her students from French Settlement High School.

'27 Clarice Henderson Breazeale owns an interior design business. She is active in her church and is a flower show judge. She has one son, Wood Breazeale Jr., .

'30 Bernice Hollister Denny was the French Club president, involved with the Current Sauce, and a member of the YWCA, and Parliamentary Law. She taught 27 years in Cameron and Jeff Davis Parishes, and coauthored a book on Cameron Parish in 1990. She writes a personal interest column for "The Cameron Parish Pilot." She has one child, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

'34 Irene Ivey Page Alexander was involved in Purple Jackets and Pi Kappa Sigma. She is now a housewife and resides in Monroe.

'34 Elsie J. Wattigny Fourrout is a retired teacher, and resides in Metairie. She is married and has two children.

'39 Oris B. Johnson was a member of Sigma Tau Gamma and Lambda Delta Lambda. He is a retired Maj. General in the U.S Air Force.

'40 Dorris Leta Adams Brogan was a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma, Kappa Delta Pi, the Purple Jacket Club, and "The Vocationalist" staff. She is a retired teacher and resides in San Diego, Ca.

'40 Carol Marie Hardberger Blankfield is a retired teacher after ten years in the classroom. She was employed for 30 years in California, where she currently resides in Redding. She has two children.

'41 Olive Alice Merritt Peterson was a member of the Euthenics Club. She is a manager at Peterson Tree Farm in DeRidder.

'41 Donnie Allen Waller was the Student Body President and a member of Sigma Tau Gamma, Pi Omega Pi, and Inter Fraternity Council. He is the Vice Chairman of the Board at Homer National Bank, and resides in Haynesville. He is married to Kathaleene ('42), who is a retired teacher.

'41 Thelma Katherine Koon Wilson was a member of Theta Sigma Alpha, Purple Jackets, and

Euthenics Club. She is a retired school teacher and a registered dietitian. Her husband Al Wilson was in the 28th Marine Regiment that raised the flag on Mt. Sourabachi.

'42 Dale Winton Stonecipher was involved in choir, Madrigal singers, drum major, and the band. He is married and lives in St. Petersburg, Fla. He has three children.

'42 F. Max Hardberger was in the Biology Fraternity. He retired in 1980 as the head of the Department of Biology at Nicholls State University.

'42 Katherine Shaw Johnson was a member of the Purple Jackets, Senior Hall of Fame, T.H. Harris Scholarship Association, YWCA, the Wesley Foundation, and Women's Council. She is married to 1939 graduate Oris B. Johnson, and they reside in Baton Rouge.

'42 Mary Leda Schlernetzauer Watson was involved in the Purple Jackets, Student Council, and Tri Sigma. She is retired and resides in Ruston with her husband Thurmon.

'43 Vera Parker Stiles Zimmerman is retired and resides in Springhill. She has two children.

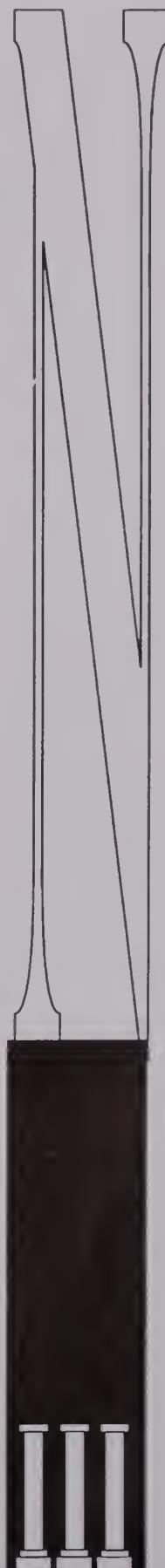
'51 Minnie Leola Craft Robertson was involved in the Euthenics Club. She is a member of the Sabine Parish School Board, and retired as a home economics teacher at Florien High School. She is married and resides in Florien, LA.

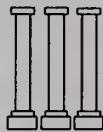
'52 Bernadine Henderson Rogers was involved in the Baptist Student Union. She is retired from the Monroe City School System, and married to Lamar E. Rogers ('52).

'52 Lamar Eiwood Rogers was involved with the Industrial Arts Club and the Baptist Student Union. He retired in 1980 from Northeast Louisiana University. He is married to Bernadine Henderson and has one child.

'52 Margaret Gene Ohlsen Yates was involved in the Baptist Student Union, College Singers, Tri Sigma Sorority, Demonettes, and Band. She is a retired assessment teacher and education consultant. She is married to Walter A. Yates and has two daughters.

'53 Rita Schexnider Marceaux was a member of Sigma Theta Tau. She is retired from Louisiana Tech where she taught nursing. She resides in Kaplan, with her husband.





David Morgan

"Some of the best days of my life," is the way David Morgan describes his years as a student at Northwestern. A 1973 graduate of NSU, up-beat and friendly as your next door neighbor, Morgan is today the founder and sole shareholder of United Teachers Associates Insurance Company of Austin, Texas and its subsidiary, United Teachers Associates. A good way to describe Morgan would be that he feels right at home at the top. And, he didn't waste any time getting there.

Morgan received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Northwestern in 1973 and knew only that he wanted "a marketing-type job." After graduation he made a choice between the only two job offers he received and began working as an insurance salesman with a company in Shreveport, Louisiana. He managed to out-do every other salesman his first year of employment, was promoted to manager, and moved to Montgomery, Alabama. He was honored as both salesman of the year and manager of the year.

Promotions came quickly for Morgan as he worked his way up moving from Montgomery to Dallas, Texas. In 1981 he moved to Austin, Texas and founded his own company, United Teacher

Associates (UTA) with the exclusive endorsement of Texas Retired Teachers Association. Operating, literally, from the trunk of Morgan's car, his general agency specialized in marketing health care programs to retired teachers. The company grew at such a

rapid pace selling so many policies that, in December, 1984, he bought an existing insurance company to accomodate the growth and to issue the policies being sold by UTA.

Having built a solid reputation within the state

of Texas in a short period of time, UTA was able to receive endorsements from other state teachers associations. Today Morgan's companies have assets in excess of \$100,000,000, and the lead company, UTA Insurance Company, is in the top 10% by premium income of insurance companies in the United States measured by health insurance premium income. Of his employees Morgan says, "We have a lot of smart people working here. We have the right people in the right spots."

When Morgan speaks of his work, he radiates enthusiasm, "It's been so good, you just don't want to quit! This is marketing at its best," he says. "We've gotten better every year, seen growth every year."

Morgan feels that Northwestern "was the right school" for him. An academically average student at Bolton High School in Alexandria, Louisiana, he viewed going to college at NSU as an opportunity for a "fresh start." He says his experiences at Northwestern taught him "how to relate and deal with people. You may not always be selling things, but you're selling ideas," says Morgan.

With the same aggressive style he exemplifies in his work today, Morgan made his mark as a student at Northwestern. He was involved in student government as a class officer and with the Student Union Governing Board (known now as Student Activities Board), the latter of which he served as vice president of entertainment. He cheered the crowds on at sports events as "Vic the Demon," NSU's mascot. "That was a blast! I even got paid for it," he says of the experience. Morgan served as president of Inter Fraternity Council, president of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, and was elected to Who's Who his senior year.

No doubt Morgan's enthusiasm and campus involvement won him the opportunity as a student to do a bit of recruiting and speaking to high school students about NSU as well as representing the school in several national conferences. He says he was an average student academically but "probably made A's on extra curricular activities." His intense involvement with students, teachers and administrators taught him the importance of communication, "You've got to communicate. Communication is just so important," he says.

66 Northwestern...
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school for me...99

Among Morgan's favorite professors and administrators was Elise James, who taught some of his business courses. "She was outgoing, upbeat. Everyone liked her and could relate really well with her." Other favorites were J.W. Johnson (accounting), Dr. Richard Galloway (Vice President of Student Affairs), whom he knew through his student government work, and Bob Wilson (Director of Student Union), who helped in dealing with people and communicating, because, he says, "we were always talking about how to handle this or that situation."

Morgan believes NSU prepared him well for the work he does now. Looking back, he feels that his business courses helped a lot with different aspects of overall company and personnel management and that accounting really helped with money management. "I've been pretty successful," he says. One would have to agree.

As for his personal life, Morgan says, "Let me tell you about my family. I'm very family oriented." His wife, Sherry Fargerson Morgan a Southwood High School graduate from Shreve-

port, is also an NSU graduate and alumna of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. His children are David, Jr. (17), Brian (14), and Laura (11). The family is involved in Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin. Morgan remains in contact with NSU college friends Mike Shannon, Mike Edwards, and Reid and Karen Funderburk. He presently serves on the NSU Alumni Board of Directors.

Morgan's story is one of success, but he knows that hard work is the only road to the top. "There is a huge opportunity out there for people who want to do the work," he says. "I began with nothing, working out of the trunk of my car, and now I own a couple of insurance companies." His philosophy: "You have to be a doer and a dreamer. I'm a dreamer and a doer. I try not to focus on the obstacles. I try to focus on the end result."



'56 **Janis Kay Presley Schmitt** is married and has four children. She resides in Taylors, S.C.

'57 **Jo Ann Bourg Ross** is a nursing supervisor at the Northwest Louisiana Developmental Center and resides in Shreveport.

'57 **Sandra Jean Johnson Thames** was a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha. She is a part-time nursing instructor at North Harris Montgomery Community College District. She is married and resides in Spring, Texas.

'57 **John Davis Schmitt** is the president of Schmitt and Associates Inc., Financial Services and Retail Banking Consultants. He is married and has four children.

'60 **Dr. Edwina Thedford** was a member of choir, band, and was involved at the BSU. She has joined the faculty at Ouachita Baptist as the assistant professor of music. She resides in Arkadelphia, Ark.

'61 **Beth Lou Haire Hill** retired from a position with the Bossier Parish School board and is working at Schumpert Medical Center as a speech pathologist. She is married to Fred Hill and has two children.

'62 **Elizabeth L. Hennigan Barfield** was involved in the BSU, Euthenics club, as a dorm assistant, and sophomore counselor. She is employed as a County Extension Agent in Home Economics for

Texas Agricultural Extension Service. She has one child, 21.

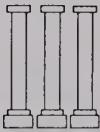
'63 **Edith-Gale Cogburn Winn** was a member of Delta Zeta and worked for the Current Sauce. She is a math coordinator for K-12, and resides in Grapevine, Texas. She is married to **James L. Winn** ('62) and has two children.

'63 **Sandra A. Marx Crenshaw** is an office manager at Butch Crenshaw State Farm Insurance in Alexandria. She is married and has four children, one was a '91 graduate and another is a current student at NSU.

'63 **Dr. Patty Alston Prophit Lillis** is an associate Professor and chairperson in adult nursing at the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing in Augusta, Ga. where she resides. She presented her research, "Effectiveness of a Pain Management Program for Pediatric Oncology Patients" at the Second International Conference on Children and Death in Edinburgh, Scotland last September.

'64 **Sandra Jean Shahane Nix** was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Delta Phi, and Sigma Alpha Iota. Both she and her husband John ('64) retired after 27 years of teaching in 1991, and they now own The Lazer's Edge. They have three children, and three grandchildren.





Lawrence Nugent,

When the phone rings, Lawrence (Larry) Nugent never knows what to expect. But Nugent, the District Manager for Corporate and External Affairs with South Central Bell is glad the phone is ringing.

Nugent, a 1967 graduate of Northwestern, is district manager for a nine-parish area in Central Louisiana. He has a wide range of responsibility including serving as company spokesman and dealing with business and customer requests. Nugent also deals with area legislators, public officials and the state Public Service Commission.

"Anything that comes in we handle," said Nugent. "Anything from a damaged cable to a customer request to a question from the media we handle."

Nugent earned his degree in health, physical education and recreation with a minor in special education for the physically handicapped. After graduating, he opened an AAMCO Transmission franchise. Two months after opening the franchise, he was drafted into the Marine Corps in February, 1968.

He was in the Marine Corps for two years and was discharged in 1970. Then, he became a teacher and also sold insurance and worked at the YMCA. In 1973, he went to work for South Central Bell and became district manager in 1985. Nugent's job is different than what he prepared for but that he uses what he learned at Northwestern every day.

"My field of study prepared me to be a success in whatever endeavor I got into," he said. "I was prepared to go into physical therapy but I was also prepared to go into the corporate world."

Nugent was a member of the football team at Northwestern. He was a two-time All Gulf State Conference guard in 1964 and 1965 and was an NAIA honorable mention All-American guard in 1965. Nugent was a student assistant coach on the 1966 Demon team that went undefeated.

According to Nugent, an important part of playing football was the close friendships with teammates like Al Dodd and Claude Patrick. He says the football coaches at Northwestern were concerned with teaching the players more than the X's and O's of football.

"The coaches, Jack Clayton, Red Phillips, Cracker Brown, Slim Howell, Walter Ledet and

Jim Knecht provided a lot of leadership," said Nugent. "They led us by example and taught us discipline and helped us develop skills that we could use for the rest of our life."

Nugent vividly remembers the excitement that went on the week of the annual State Fair Game with Louisiana Tech in Shreveport.

"That was the game of the season. There was a lot of hype and you felt a lot of pressure to perform," said Nugent. "The thing that sticks out in my mind is the support we received in so many ways from the student body. We felt like the whole season was built around that game and that we were letting a lot of people down if we lost."

Classroom teachers like current NSU President Dr. Robert Alost, Dr. Buddy Bonnette, Paul "Doc" Marx, Richard Galloway and Hays Prothro also shaped Nugent.

"I took a class under Dr. Bonnette, Water Safety Instruction, that I'll never forget," Nugent related. "We got out in the water the first day and it was hard for me to swim very far. But Dr. Bonnette said by the end of the semester, we'd all be able to swim a mile. And we all could. He (Bonnette) had a dedication to his job and that taught me a lot."

Nugent is involved in many community activities in the Alexandria-Pineville area including the Special Olympics, the local Economic Development Council and the Central Cities Development Corporation.

He served on the board of the Louisiana Special Olympics for the past seven years. Nugent rotated off the board and was replaced by Steve Shine, another NSU graduate.

"Working with the physically and mentally handicapped has been important all my life," said Nugent. "I've been lucky enough to have healthy children so I'm willing to do whatever I can to help."

Nugent has worked extensively with the Telephone Pioneers, a group of telephone company employees that work to help children.

So when the phone rings, Nugent is glad to answer it not only because it's his job but because he looks forward to the opportunities a phone call could play in helping others.

N

'64 **Jarion Magee** recently had his young adult novel *Sanctuary of Illusion* published by Libra Publishers. He resides in Richardson, Texas, with his wife, Joan, and their two children Justin and Jaclyn.

'64 **James K. Coleman** was a member of the band. He now is a manager in the physical therapy department at Houston County Hospital. He resides in Grapeland, Texas, and has three children.

'64 **Dr. Maury Dennis** recently received an award from Texas A&M University for excellence in external funding. Dr. Dennis has directed research and development projects which totaled more than \$1.1 million over the last three years. He is a professor and coordinator of the Safety Education Program at Texas A&M University.

'65 **Rose Rita McClemon** is the owner and manager of Coming Up Roses-Gifts and Collectibles. The shop is being featured in the October issue of the American Rose Magazine. She has been married to Frank H. McClemon for 25 years and has four children.

'65 **Eva Firmin James** is the assistant principal and librarian at Sacred Heart Elementary School in Ville Platte. She was married to **Therman James** ('64) who passed away in July 1986. They had two children.

'65 **Donna Jean Love Wright** is the director of guidance at Irmo Middle School. She is a counselor in education and a family therapist in private practice. She is also an adjunct professor at USC.

'66 **Horace Johnson** has been employed for 27 years with Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company as an herbicide product manager. He recently received the Lea S. Hitchner Service Award, the top service award given by the National Agricultural Chemicals Association (NACA) for his industry leadership role in addressing the recycling and disposal of agricultural chemical containers. He resides in Apex, N.C. with his wife, Frankie "Armstrong" Johnson.

'68 **Dr. Milton Finley** was recently named chairman of the Department of History and Social Sciences at Louisiana State University in Shreveport. He is a frequent commentator and source on military history, European revolutions, Russia, and the Middle East.

'68 **John Laird Brown** is the associate vice chancellor for Technical Education at Houston Community College System. He is married to **Alice Paulette Young** ('66) and has two children.

'68 **Larry Howard** was the PEK secretary. He is now a retired teacher and coach. He is married and resides in DeRidder. He has three children, two of which are seniors at LSU.

'68 **Judy Terry Moncrief** was involved in the Purple Jackets and Delta Zeta. She was appointed principal at Caddo Middle magnet in 1992. She is married to **Michael Lee Moncrief** ('67) who is a teacher at Booker T. Washington High School. They have two children.

'68 **Pete Jabbla** was a member of KA. He is the personnel director of the St. Tammany Parish School Board. He is married to **Suzanne** ('68) and they have two children.

'69 **Charlotte Ann Scott Smith** is a nutritionist for the Texas Department of Health. She is married and has two children.

'70 **Michael Owen Crooks** is an air defense control officer for the United States Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He is married to **Patricia Stilley** ('70) and they have two children.

'70 **Raymond John Rush** was a member of Psychology Club, Psi Chi, and Karate Club. He is a school psychologist for St. Charles Parish Schools. He is married to **Mary M. McCormick** ('70).

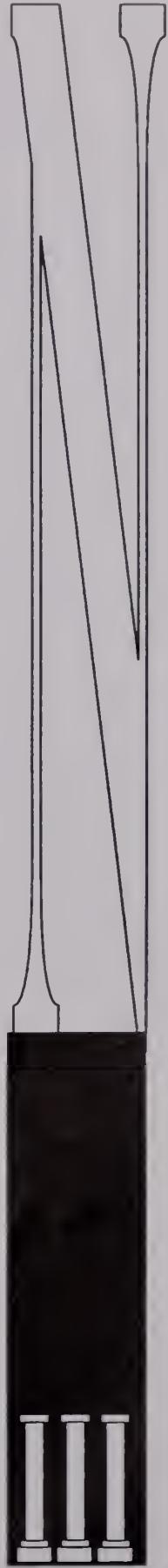
'70 **Robert Edward Maloney** was a member of Kappa Alpha. He is the owner of Hurricane Creek Nursery and Poole Bros. Nursery in Forest Hill. He married Myra Poole in 1970 and they have two boys.

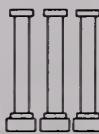
'71 **Carol Fae Rachal O'Quinn** was a member of Phi Kappa Phi. She is a case manager at Project Independence for Louisiana Office of Family Support. She is married and her son Louis is a student at NSU.

'71 **Tommy R. Bailey** is the senior representative in the Loss Control Department for Royal Insurance. He is married and resides in Houston, Texas.

'71 **Eugene Lefevre Smith Jr.** was in the ROTC. He is the district representative for the National Federation of Independent Business. He is married and has two children.

'71 **Sherry Lynn Strickland Stewart** was a member of Delta Zeta. She is married and has two children. She resides in Corsicana, Texas.





Virginia Deason Hunter

Trying to learn something new everyday, while helping others deal with their problems keeps Dr. Virginia Hunter from getting bored.

Hunter opened her own psychoanalysis firm in Long Beach, Calif. in 1969, approximately 13 years after receiving her bachelor of science in upper elementary education from Northwestern State College. After she received her undergraduate degree in 1956, and even while she was still in school at Northwestern, she knew that she did not want to teach for the rest of her life. "I felt that I would be very bored after teaching the same grade level for a period of time."

Instead of going directly to work, the former Virginia Ann Deason began post-graduate work. She earned her master's in social work in 1963 from Louisiana State University. She then went on to the Reiss-Davis Child Study Center in Los Angeles, and obtained a two-year child analysis certification.

Hunter worked for the Bureau of Child Welfare in Alexandria, then she came back to Natchitoches for some time. She then went to work in Arkansas at the First Outpatient Mental Health Clinic.

While at Reiss-Davis, she was named the non-medical director of the psychoanalytic center for children in Long Beach, Calif. She then became head of the clinic. After 1969, she opened her own practice and has been in the Long Beach area since then, working with children, adults, families, groups and individuals to understand their conscious and unconscious thought. In 1990, she returned to school and was certified for adult analysis, and received her doctorate from the Newport Psychoanalysis Institute of Orange, Calif.

She did teach in Long Beach and in Newport, but she is not teaching at either place anymore. Hunter has published a number of articles and has presented papers in Argentina, London, Paris, Mexico, Canada and throughout California.

Currently, Hunter is completing two books which have received commitments to be published. The books, "Stages of Psychoanalysis: Interviews" and "Stages of Psychoanalysis: A Single Case Discussion" will be completed "hopefully before summer vacation."

Hunter interviewed 13 famous psychoanalysts for the books and presented a case study to each of them. Each of the interviews was also videotaped and Hunter is awaiting approval to produce the videos as well.

"I really worked hard to get all of this stuff out," Hunter said, "but working with these people was quite an experience."

66 It is so much fun
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Some of the psychoanalysts Hunter interviewed include: John Bowlby, a British psychoanalyst whose specialties are attachment and loss and grief and mourning; Hannah Segal, a Kleinian analyst in London who treats psychotic patients; Peter Giovacchini, who deals with primitive mental states and depression; Robert Wallerstein, an ego psychologist who specializes in inpatient treatment and the theories of psychoanalysis; Rudolph Ekstein, a former teacher of Hunter's who was studying in Vienna when Freud was still at the Institute; Jacob Arlow, who specializes in the history and theory of psychoanalysis and unconscious fantasies; and Joseph Natterson of Los Angeles who specializes in the major use of countertransference.

Hunter has shown the videos of the case discussions and interviews at various times and they have all been "well received."

She tries to come back to Natchitoches every year for the Christmas Festival and to visit her mother. "It is so much fun to return to Natchitoches and see everyone and everything again," Hunter said.

She said that she, like everyone else who has moved from a small town and now lives and works in a big city, "longs for the small, less stressful life, but the cultural and intellectual stimulation in Los Angeles is amazing."

One thing about Natchitoches that Hunter misses is the friendly atmosphere of the South. She said that when she was in Natchitoches, and needed something, someone was always there. "Southerners are really nice people," Hunter said. "The friendship that is expressed is fascinating."

"In Los Angeles, you have to be suspicious of everything," Hunter said. "When my new neighbors moved in, I brought them a cake, and they almost would not even open the door."

Hunter does, however, enjoy the excitement of living in California. "It is a place where so many people come to share their minds and their knowledge. It is a place where people want to go."

Her father, Archie K. Deason, taught chemistry at Northwestern when Hunter was in school. She was on the synchronized swim team and enjoyed playing bridge and dancing. She thought that they were more important than studying. "I guess people would have considered me a wild rebel."

She and her husband and stepson live in Cypress, Calif. in Orange County. Her niece, Stacy Frey, is currently a student at Northwestern and works at the Wesley-Westminster Foundation.



'72 **James A. Sabia Jr.** is a physical education teacher at Northeast School in Stamford, Ct. He is married and has two children.

'72 **Jane Frances Arleux Thomas** was involved in student government and women's organization. She is an assistant district attorney and resides in Baton Rouge. She is married and has two children.

'72 **Lonnie E. Dunn** was a member of Phi Delta Kappa. He is the principal at Ridgewood Middle School in Shreveport. He is married and has two children.

'72 **Danny Ray Gour** was a member of N Club and an athletic trainer. He is principal at Castor High School, and a student in the doctoral program at Southern Mississippi-Hattiesburg.

'72 **Deborah Kay Wing DeCuir** is a teacher in the Avoyelles Parish School Board. She is married to Stephen DeCuir ('71) and they have two children.

'72 **Anita Ann Wellner** was involved in the Baptist Student Union, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Alpha Theta. She is a library analyst at the University of Delaware Library.

'73 **Brenda Hudgens Gray Simms** was a member of Zigma Zigma Zigma. She is a married and is a housewife in Longview, Texas.

'73 **Dennis A. Bozeman** was involved in the American Chemical Society and Blue Key. He is the Southwest sales manager for Count Numbering Machines, Inc. He was formerly the owner of Metro Printing and Graphics from 1972-92 in Alexandria. He is married to Marie Morgel Bozeman and has five children.

'73 **Robert D. Hutson** was a member of Theta Chi fraternity and Psi Chi. He is the executive vice president of Shands Hospital at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He is married to Neila Campbell Hutson and has three children.

'73 **Roger Stanley Loyd** was involved in the band and music. He is the minister of music at First Baptist Church in Pascagoula, Miss. He is married to Nelda Alford Loyd ('73) and has two children.

'74 **Louise Desiree Hudson Anderson** was a member of the Demon Marching Band. She is a confidential secretary in the office of the Secretary of Defense. She resides in Woodbridge, Va. with her husband Col. Louis H. Anderson ('74), who is retired from the U.S. Army.

'75 **Julla Ellizabeth Talley Grooms** is employed at the Louisiana Office of Family Support. She is married and has one child.

'76 **Camille Hawthorne** was involved in Sigma Kappa, yearbook, and Student Union Governing Board. She is the associate dean of Student Affairs at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pa.

'76 **Vikki Jeannette Young Hale** was the Panhellenic president in '75, and involved in Homecoming, Winter Ball, Track and State Fair Courts, and earned the Physical Education Academic Award. She is married and has two children, 6 and 9. She resides in Sugar Land, Texas.

'76 **Jacqueline Kae Rash Pennywell** is a special education teacher. She is married and has one child of 15 months.

'76 **Shelley Hilton Pace** was the editor of the Current Sauce, and involved with the Student Union Governing Board, KNWD-FM Board of Directors, and Sigma Delta Chi. She is an artist's representative and studio manager for Pace Productions/Pace Photography. She is also a freelance copywriter.

'77 **Margaret Ann Smith** is a neonatal nurse practitioner for South Louisiana Medical Associates. She is single and resides in Houma.

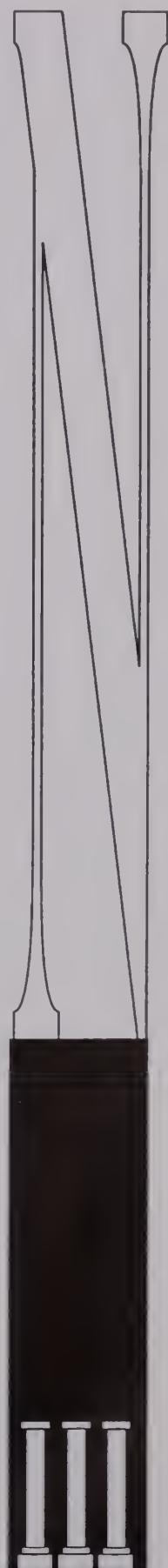
'77 **Stephen W. Decuir** was a member of Kappa Alpha. He is a training NCO in the Louisiana National Guard.

'77 **Theresa Louise Lascari Kaiser** is a registered nurse and resides in Redlands, Calif. She is married and has three girls.

'77 **Donna Ledet Wojtkiewicz** lives in Cut Off with her husband **Patrick Wray Wojtkiewicz** ('76). They have two children, 4 and 15.

'78 **Artie L. Jeane** was involved in the Black Knights and ROTC. He is a supply analyst for Systems Integration and Management Activity. He is single and resides in St. Louis, Mo.

'78 **Ronda Gayle Stiles Lachney** was involved in Phi Beta Lambda, Society for the Advancement of Management, and Students in Free Enterprise. She teaches English at Loyola College Prep School. She is married to **Kent John Lachney** ('78) who is a CPA/accounting manager at O'Brien Oil and Investments in Shreveport. They have one child, age 10.





‘78 **Janie Wallace** resides in Mooringsport.

‘78 **Zonnie V. LaBry** was a member of Sigma Kappa. She is the supervisor of Medical Transcription. She is married and has three children ages 4, 9 and 11.

‘79 **Melissa M. Green** is a project archaeologist for the Archaeology Research Program at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

‘79 **Rebecca Frances Butts Burris** was a member of Sigma Theta Tau. She is the assistant professor of nursing at Arkansas Tech University. She is married and has three children.

‘79 **Lorie R. Boley Harper** was involved in Kappa Omicron Phi, Student Home Economics Association, and Phi Kappa Phi. She is a Home Economics teacher at Hayesville High School. She is married to Gary Harper and they have two children ages 1 and 5.

‘78 **Denise E. Gregory Ferguson** was involved in the Recreation Club. She is a unit director for the Hagan Boys and Girls Club. She resides in Youngsville.

‘78 **Alan J. Stone** was involved in Psi Chi. He is the clinical director for the Center for Psychological and Family Services. He is married and resides in Springfield, Mass.

‘80 **Karen Thurmon Rye** is an RN-staff nurse in obstetrics and perinatal nursing education consultant at Kosciusko Community Hospital. She is married to Charles Rye and they have three children ages 1, 5 and 6. They live in Warsaw, Ind.

‘80 **Terry Renee Reeves Sneler** taught elementary school until the birth of her son in Dec. 1991. She resides in Houston, Texas.

‘81 **Roger Michael Rolon** was involved in Blue Key, Current Sauce, Sports Information, KNWD, and Potpourri. He is the curriculum director at Leesville High School. He is married to Kathy Bailey Rolon and they have one child.

‘81 **John-Michael Strange** is an opera singer. He sang *Cosi fan tutte* in Prague with the State Opera of Czechoslovakia under the baton of maestro Giuseppe Sinopoli last September. He has auditions with the Staatsoper in Vienna and the Volksoper in Salzburg for a run of *Don Giovanni* this fall. In January of 1993, he made his Carnegie Hall debut with the Opera Orchestra of New York as Tonio in Donizetti's *La fille du Regiment*. He resides in New York, N.Y.

‘81 **Ron F. Thomas** was the president of the Student Union Governing Board 1979-81 and sports editor for the *Current Sauce*. He is a minister of education at Maplewood First Baptist Church. He is married and has two children ages 6 and 9.

‘81 **Carol Ann Fletcher Elford** is employed at the Texas Federal Credit Union. She resides in Longview.

Dr. William R. Fisher was a member of the ROTC faculty from 1982-85. He is retired from the U.S. Army and now lives in Cairo, Egypt working as a management consultant for General Dynamics Corp.

‘82 **Kristy Towry** was promoted to senior financial specialist in Financial Analysis and Reporting in August of 1992.

‘82 **Michael Ettner** was honored in October of 1992 with the Humanitarian Concerns Award by California Lutheran University for his zealous concern for human welfare and social reform. He resides in Quincy, Ca. with his wife Jean and their three year old son.

‘82 **Daniel Searing** is an anesthetist at North Kansas City Hospital. He is married to **Anne Herndon Searing** ('81) and they have three children ages 3, 5 and 7.

‘82 **James E. Webb** is a funeral practitioner at Blanchard-St. Denis Funeral Home, Inc. in Natchitoches. He is married to Debbie who is currently enrolled at NSU and they have a one year old daughter.

‘83 **Ginger Jordan** and her husband Mark had a son on August 11, 1992. His name is Daniel Lee Jordan.

‘83 **Alicia K. Haynes** was involved in Purple Jackets, Phi Mu, and the State Fair Court. She is an attorney and owner of the Haynes & Associates Law Firm in Birmingham, Ala..

‘84 **Dale E. Quickel** was on the football team 1979-82. He is a teacher and coach at Christ Lutheran School in Little Rock, Ark..

‘84 **John. F. Sacker** was involved in TKE, Blue Key, and Purple Jackets. He is a Graduate Nurse Anesthetist at Willis-Knighton Medical Center in Shreveport.

'84 **Claire Ann W. Stansell** is an occupational health nurse at Johnson Controls, Inc. and she resides in Dallas, Texas.

'84 **Mark T. Thigpen** was "Mr. Intramural" 1982-83. He is the physical education teacher, head baseball coach, and assistant football coach at Groesbeck High School. The football team was the 1991 Class 3-A State Champions. He is married and has two children ages 3 and 6.

'84 **Christopher L. Moran** is a division controller at ConAgra Poultry Foodservice Co. in Shreveport. He and his wife Peggy have two children age two and five.

'84 **Stephanie Lee McAlister Whitten** was involved in band and Sigma Alpha Iota. She is a staff nurse for Overton-Brooks in Shreveport and is married with a six year old son.

'85 **Sandy Lynn Fortenberry Joiner** is a senior product verification engineer for Northern Telecom in Morrisville, NC. She is married and gave birth to Alexander Van Cleave Joiner. **Susan Fortenberry** ('85) is the proud aunt. Susan is a software engineer at ArklaGas in Shreveport.

'85 **Michael Harry Packard** is the band director for Walnut Ridge School District. He is married to Kristen C. Keller Packard and they reside in Jonesboro, Ark.

'85 **Alfred "Aaron" Bruning Jr.** was a member of Iota Lambda Sigma. He is a senior loss control consultant at Alexander & Alexander of Texas, Inc. He is married and lives in Mesquite, Texas.

'86 **Diana L. Steward** was a member of Psi Chi. She is a psychology associate at Great Oaks Center in Silver Spring, Md.

'87 **Randall James Riche** is a sales representative at Lufkin Trailers. He is married to **Pamela Lynne Wolff Riche** ('87) who is an accountant at Arkla, Inc. in Shreveport. They have two children and reside in Bossier City.

'87 **Cynthla K. Ollve Lambert** was involved in Sigma Sigma Sigma. She is a senior accountant at Big Three Industries in Houston Texas. She is married to **Larry Lamar Lambert** ('88).

'87 **Sandra Prudhomme Payne** was involved in Phi Kappa Phi, Purple Jackets, and Sigma Theta Tau. She is a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Donald Walter in Shreveport.

'88 **Debbie Lynn Cable** was involved in Delta Zeta, theatre, and as a cheerleader. She is a senior kindergarten teacher at North Polk Elementary. She was married on Valentine's Day to Robert William Brown, an Apache helicopter pilot with the U.S. Army.

'88 **Betsy Louise Leonard Wason** was a member of Art Club. She is married and resides in Presidio, Calif.

'88 **Rafiq Ajmal** is a senior system programmer at Allstate Insurance Co. He is married and resides in Streamwood, Ill.

'88 **Angela Rochelle Griffith** was involved in Phi Mu, French Club, and was president and secretary of Panhellenic. She is an institutional bond broker at Lehman Bros. in Sunnyvale, Calif.

'89 **Ronald C. Wise** was involved in Blue Key, BSU, College Republicans, and was a Senator-at-Large. He is a bank fraud investigator for the FDIC.

'89 **Margaret Louise Roberts Dupree** was involved in the Student Nurses Association in Shreveport. She is a staff nurse-registered nurse at Schumpert Medical Center and her husband Glenn J. Dupree is currently attending NSU-Shreveport in the nursing program.

'89 **Marshall L. Sandoz** was the president of Sigma Tau Gamma. He is a police officer first class at the Natchitoches City Police Department. He is married to Caroline Tomka who works with KZBL in Natchitoches.

'89 **Eleanor Kate Thibodeaux Bangle** is an adapted physical education teacher for Acadia Parish School Board. She resides in Meraudau.

'90 **Angela Denise Ortega** played Lady Demon basketball. She is assistant women's basketball coach at the University of North Texas in Denton.

'90 **Alesia Dawn Wharton Rye** is married and has a child 5. She lives in Prattville, Ala.

'90 **Melissa Marie Frank** was involved in Zeta Phi Beta sorority and Anthropology Club. She is a minority program coordinator at Western Illinois University in the Student Activities Office.

'90 **Jeffrey C. Wingard** completed basic training at Recruit Training Command in San Diego on Sept. 22, 1992. He joined the Navy in June of 1992.





'90 Joseph W. Robertson was involved in SAB, SGA, and Kappa Sigma. He is employed in personnel at First National Bank in Lake Charles.

'90 Lisa Danelle Cote Fuller was a complex and natatorium lifeguard. She is a sales representative at Knoll Pharmaceuticals. She is married to Jeffery Kevin Fuller and they have one daughter.

'90 David Lawton Wolfe was an NSU recruiter 1990-92 and was vice president of the SGA and in the Kappa Alpha Order. He is a claim representative at State Farm Insurance and resides in Houston.

'90 Paige A. Whitley was a member of Sigma Kappa. She did graduate work in English at Louisiana Tech. She is now an assistant in the Division of Informational Services at NSU.

'91 Tracy Lynn Mount Cockerham is a secretary at Wilson Oil Co., Inc. in Jonesville.

'91 Roxanne Elizabeth Gray Compton is an assistant family-teacher at Boys Town of Nevada in Las Vegas. She married Jackie Compton on Nov. 27, 1991.

'91 Paige Keller McDermott was involved in flight team and Alpha Eta Rho. She is a first officer pilot for Sunaire Express (Metro Airlines).

'91 Kent P. Laborde was recently promoted to marine lance corporal while serving with Marine Detachment, Benjamin Harrison, Ind. He joined the Marine Corps in Oct. 1991.

'92 John Andrew Rigler resides in Lake Charles.

Deceased

Bobby Slack died July 16, 1991. He was a resident of Houston, Texas.

Margie Scott Spier died November 4, 1990. She was a resident of Bastrop.

Effie Ricks died August 12, 1992. She taught first grade for many years in Sabine Parish.

Brodie Waller died October 19, 1991. He was a resident of Haynesville.

Velva Joiner died March 19, 1992. She was a resident of Hammond.

Caryl L. Hebert died June 29, 1992. She was a resident of Innis.

Maxine O. Martin died August 4, 1992. She was a resident of Shreveport.

Joyce D. Lovitt McCarty died March 10, 1991 in an auto accident.

Thelma Gandy David died November 12, 1991. She lived in Orlando, Fla.

Ms. George L. Parks died June 15, 1992. She was a Natchitoches resident.

Guy J. Shehane died August 14, 1992.

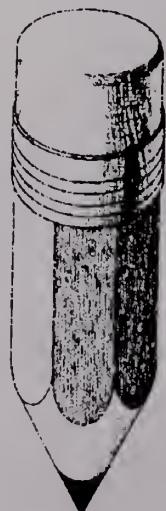
John E. Pollard died September 23, 1991. His wife **Marcy** ('57) resides in Carthage, Texas.

Oneita Jean Price Tillman died August 28, 1992.

Glenn W. Riggan died October 23, 1992 at the age of 73. He was a retired Northern Illinois University music faculty member who was well known among musicians in both the East and Midwest.

Ken Brown died during the summer of 1991.

A. Missie Stafford of Cheneyville passed away at the age of 88.



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CLASS UPDATE
(page 21). Your
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issue... **DO IT NOW!**

Greg Book (NSU '91) (right) a Ph.D. candidate at Georgia Tech, displays his \$7,500 full-year academic scholarship, awarded by Rear Adm. Alan B. Shepard Jr. (center), president, the Mercury Seven Foundation, and William Ussery (left), public relations manager, Mercedes-Benz of North America, Inc.



Book was presented the scholarship based on his outstanding achievements in the areas of science, math and engineering. The Mercury Seven Foundation was founded by surviving members of America's original Mercury Seven astronauts and seeks to strengthen America's position in science and technology by awarding competitive scholarships. The award to Book is sponsored by Mercedes-Benz of North America.

Book hopes to become an astronaut-mission specialist with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry in three years from Northwestern. While on academic scholarship at NSU, he received the American Institute of Chemists Senior Award and was a presidential scholar. He received a first-year fellowship from Georgia Tech in the department of chemistry.



Denise Lewis Patrick, native of Natchitoches and Alumnus of NSU, recently donated a copy of her newly published children's literature book Red Dancing Shoes, to the Cammie G. Henry Research Center of NSU's Watson library. Shown in the picture are (L-R) Mary Linn Bandaries (NSU archivist), Harold Boutte (NSU director of housing, food service and minority affairs), Patrick, Amanda Young (Watson Library media center director), and Ms. Patrick's father, G. Stanley Lewis.

Alumni recognized for service



Northwestern President Dr. Robert Alost presented Nth Degree Awards to three Northwestern graduates who are among the state's leaders in education. The awards were presented at a dinner prior to the women's basketball game between Northwestern and Stephen F. Austin State University.

Nth Degree Awards were presented to Acting Deputy Superintendent of Education Robert Crew, Louisiana High School Athletic Association Commissioner Tommy Henry and Assistant Superintendent of Vocational Education Chris Strother. The awards were presented "in recognition of unselfish devotion to duty and the willingness to go the extra mile in meritorious service to mankind."

Crew has been with the State Department of Education since 1970. He began as a supervisor in the Bureau of Higher Education and Certification and has also served as assistant director and director of the bureau. He played a key role in automating the state's teacher certification process and in upgrading teacher certification process. He has also served as Director of Continuing Education and Interim Deputy Superintendent of Education.

Crew was a teacher in Morgan City and Shreveport before joining the State Department of Education.

Henry joined the LHSAA in 1976 and has been commissioner since 1983. He was a classroom teacher and coach at Bossier High School from 1963-75. He is a representative on the National Federation of State High School Associations' Executive Committee. Henry also received the National High School Athletic Association's Distinguished Service Award in 1989.

He was a sportswriter for several Louisiana newspapers from 1955-75.

Strother has been assistant superintendent of vocational education with the State Department of Education since July 1992. She was previously the principal at Woodlawn High School from 1989-92 and principal at the Caddo Career Center from 1982-89.

She was named Louisiana Teacher of the Year in 1981 and was a finalist for Louisiana Principal of the Year in 1989. Strother was a teacher at Woodlawn High School for 14 years before becoming a principal.



Bill Johnson



While he was at Northwestern he was known as "Smilin' Bill."

A decade later, the smile is bigger than ever. It should be.

Bill Johnson is in pretty tall Cotton after his first season as an assistant football coach at Texas A&M.

In his first season at A&M, he helped the Aggies go 12-1, win a Southwest Conference crown and make a Cotton Bowl appearance.

As if that weren't enough fun, his favorite pro team, coached by his biggest career influence, won the Super Bowl.

So the grin you still see on his face is easy to come by.

"I've always figured, if you've got something to smile about, SMILE! And if you think about it, you usually do have something to smile about," he says, chuckling.

Johnson, a 1980 Northwestern graduate, has made a pretty remarkable climb up the coaching ranks since wrapping up a standout playing career in the Demon offensive line for Coach A.L. Williams from 1976-79.

He is defensive line coach at Texas A&M. After working on the Demon football coaching staff for five seasons, he has already worked at four other universities — including Miami, in a national championship season (1987), and Arkansas, in an Independence Bowl season (1991).

At Miami, he worked for head coach Jimmy Johnson, who has since become the hottest coach in football — college or pro — after taking the Cowboys from the cellar to the Super Bowl XXVII championship.

"Being associated with Coach Johnson is probably the best thing to happen to me as far as my career is concerned," he said. "Every place I've been since then, he's had an impact on me being there."

"Now, back at Northwestern, A.L. and his staff were very good to me. Working with Coach (Sam) Goodwin was a tremendous experience. I got a great start to my coaching career and worked with some fantastic people."

"But getting the opportunity to be part of a national championship season, and being exposed to the way Coach Johnson operates, really opened my eyes," he says.

"He's focused. He sets some clear goals and works at them. Lately he's gotten a lot of harsh coverage for being cold, aloof, too intense in his approach, but that's from people on the outside. In coaching, he's the most giving person I've been around. Whenever I've needed time, or help, or advice — during my year on his staff or today — Jimmy Johnson has always responded. He's that way with all of his people."

It even surprised Bill that the Cowboys completed their turnaround so rapidly, roaring back from a 1-15 season in 1989 to win the Super Bowl just three seasons later.

"I knew he would be successful in time. I didn't know it would come so quickly," he said, "but there was never any doubt it would happen."

Bill knows a bit about rebuilding a program. He was part of a group of players who helped the Demons recover from the worst two-year skid in school history as Northwestern was 2-20 in 1974-75. Two years later, the Demons posted a winning record and by the time he finished his playing days, Northwestern had received Division I-AA Top 20 votes and had beaten arch-rival Louisiana Tech for the first time in nine seasons.

"The program was as low as it ever could be. We were 1-10 in A.L.'s first year. When we left, it wasn't at the top yet, but we had made some progress," says Johnson. "We were competitive and

we had earned the respect of the teams we played. Fighting that battle, building a team to make it respectable, was fun. It was hard, but it was fun. A.L. did a good job building it up and Sam has done a tremendous job taking it to where it is now."

Among the 106 Northwestern games Johnson participated in as a player or coach, a couple stand out in his memory. He recalls playing in the first game at rebuilt Turpin Stadium, in the 1977 season opener. The Demons trailed Texas-Arlington 24-0 but rallied for a thrilling 28-24 win to launch the first winning season in five years.

In his final season at Northwestern, 1984, Johnson was a defensive assistant coach as the Demons went 7-4. The most memorable win may still rank as the greatest upset in school history, a 22-0 whipping of Southern Mississippi a year after the Golden Eagles won the Independence Bowl.

"It was a young staff and a close defensive staff. You look at the guys we had — John Thompson, Art Kaufman, Mike Doherty — on that staff and they've all distinguished themselves since then. To go over there and win that game, to shut out a powerful I-A team, was just amazing," he recalls.

The star of that Gulf Star Conference co-championship team, All-American defensive tackle Arthur "Tank" Berry, compares favorably to the standouts Johnson has coached at Miami and Texas A&M.

"I've been around a lot of players, but Tank Berry was the most productive one I've ever coached. That includes guys like Russell Maryland," says Johnson. "Tank was really a great one. He just took over some games."

Starting his coaching career at Northwestern was appropriate since the idea of going into coaching didn't catch Johnson's fancy until midway through his undergraduate days.

"I was majoring in business but really wasn't committed to it," he remembers. "I had gotten a couple of bad grades and two of our coaches, Al Miller and Joe Peace, sat me down. They asked me what had happened, listened to what I had to say, and they told me I needed to go into something I would be committed to doing, coaching football. That made sense

to me, so I switched my major to business education and started working toward a goal. Things got better immediately.

"You consider Al Miller is an assistant coach with the New York Giants, and Joe Peace is head coach at Louisiana Tech, and you realize that they're two quality people. Fortunately they had a lot of influence on me."

The intimacy of a small campus is something Johnson found helpful as a student — and something that he truly appreciates now, working at a university with 40,000 students.

"There were some people at Northwestern, faculty as well as coaches, who lent me so much help so that I could get my education, and I can't say thank you enough," he says.

"As a coach, you see so many kids who have the intelligence and have the physical ability, and they let it go to waste. If they only knew how lucky they are and what an opportunity they have. Fortunately, although I wasn't the smartest or the most talented guy, I still had professors and coaches who kept pulling me in the right direction."

His constant smile and winning personality made him a popular figure as a player and as a coach. He regrets that he hasn't stayed in touch with many of his teammates, although he and former Demon star Petey Perot (offensive line coach at Louisiana Tech) talk shop on the phone regularly.

"I don't get to visit as much as I should with most of my old friends from Northwestern. This business is so consuming. I suppose that having Petey in coaching makes it easier for me to pick up the phone and call him. But I'd love to someday get together with the old bunch. I understand they come together at a home football game each fall, but I'm working that day every year," he says.

It didn't take long for Johnson to realize he might be cut out for coaching.

"I suppose I realized I was going to be able to coach when I showed the ability to work with guys I had been playing alongside. When I had their respect, and I was able to teach them and motivate them, I felt I could make it in coaching. And really, it was never any problem to do that."

Although the Aggie War Hymn stirs

Johnson's flame today, he treasures the time spent on the Demon football staff.

"Working for Coach Goodwin, and I'm not saying this just because I'm talking to you, those were the most fun days I've had in coaching. I have some very fond memories. It was a comfortable and fun situation at Northwestern. We may not have some of the resources that a Miami or Arkansas or Texas A&M has, but even solving some of those shortcomings made coaching fun," he says.

After the success in 1984, Johnson left his alma mater.

"Leaving Northwestern was strictly a career move. I'd turned down a spot at McNeese a year ago, and then an old coach who I respected told me that you

assistant coach in the pros. To reach those levels, you've got to move. You've got to get a network of people who believe in you and who have the influence to help you reach your goals," he says.

While he's happy at A&M, and ready to curtail his series of four moves in the last five years, he's far from content.

"I don't know that I am very successful. Every day I wake up wondering what it's going to take to compete and win. Take this year for example: we went 12-0 and got to the Cotton Bowl, and Notre Dame got after us pretty good. After a game like that, I walk away wondering things like, 'are we playing the right techniques? The right fronts? The right people?'



have to show the ability to move in order to advance in this profession. The first move you make is rarely your best, but it's a move you have to make to get your career going.

"Things have fallen into place pretty well," he says. "I've been lucky."

He's had good timing and a willingness to move — two keys to climbing ahead in the coaching profession. After a couple of years at McNeese, a former Arkansas State assistant who had since moved to Miami called Johnson about an opening on the Hurricanes' staff, "and 24 hours later, it was done," he remembers.

"I'm not quite sure what my goals are as far as my career. Generally, people in my profession want to be a head coach at a major college or maybe a top-level

"There's always ways to get better. You've got to have the constant desire to improve, and the fear of failure. Those are great motivators."

Motivation was never a problem for Johnson at Northwestern and it's his strong suit today.

"I love the involvement with the players. Recruiting is fun, but that's more of a job," he says. "The coaching on the field, the motivation aspect, teaching what we want to get across, is what gets me juiced. Coaching, to me, is seeing your guy playing as hard as he can and not making mistakes."

Only one thing ranks higher than coaching on his priority scale. He is married to the former Dawn Doherty of

Continued on page 20

Johnson continued from page 19

Winnfield. They met at NSU and have two pre-school children: Billy, almost 3 years old, and a daughter, Abby, who's 1.

"Billy tells me every day that he's the greatest basketball player in the world. Then it's baseball season and he's the greatest baseball player in the world. When football rolls around, he'll be the greatest football player in the world. It's fun to watch."

His bio in the A&M media guide lists his hobbies as golf, cooking and reading, but Johnson says there are only two real answers to that question.

"I had to put something down," he says. "I'm not a big fisherman, or a big golfer, or a big hunter. I coach football and raise my young ones. That's what I enjoy doing. It may sound simple, but I like it that way."

And it's working pretty well.



GRITS GRESHAM GIVES \$10,000 'CROSBY FUND' GIFT TO DEMON GOLF TEAM



Internationally renowned outdoorsman and writer Grits Gresham of Natchitoches has used \$10,000 of his winnings from this year's Crosby Celebrity-Am Charity Golf Tournament to establish an endowment fund for Northwestern State's golf team.

Gresham and North Carolina textile executive Chris Perry teamed to shoot a 28-under par score for a second-place finish in The Crosby at Bermuda Run, held annually near Winston-Salem, N.C. The tournament, organized 52 years ago by entertainer Bing Crosby and overseen today by his wife, Kathryn, annually generates more than \$1.5 million for distribution to charitable causes, primarily for prevention of drug and alcohol abuse.

Top finishers in the tournament may designate charities to receive grants from The Crosby Fund. The \$10,000 gift is by far the largest donation made to Northwestern's golf program, said Glen Krupica, assistant athletic director for fund raising.

"For our golf program, it's like a 400-yard drive," said Coach Craig Rex.

"It's a huge boost to our program in many ways. It provides recognition and the base for developing our community support. This gets the ball rolling," he said. "A contribution of this magnitude can help elevate our program to a high level of achievement, and it can hopefully inspire others to make a significant contribution to the endowment."

"We cannot say thanks enough to Grits and The Crosby Fund for this generous contribution," said athletic director Tynes Hildebrand.

Gresham, a longtime resident of Natchitoches and a supporter of academic and athletic programs at Northwestern, was excited about the gift.

"It's fun to have some money to help worthwhile causes," he said. "We've got to thank the Crosby Foundation for this gift and for all of the wonderful work they do. It's nice to be able to help people."

Gresham has been playing golf for more than 30 years but not with any distinction, he admits.

"What a great game it is ... a game you can play all your life, and you can play as badly at 75 or 85 as you can at 25," he said, chuckling.

His affinity for the game and respect for the improvement of the Demon golf team in recent years led to his decision to set up the endowment fund.

"I've been following what's been happening with the golf program for the last year or two, and I've been impressed with the progress they've made under (former

coach) Greg Sankey and now Craig Rex. I thought it was a program that needed some support and I was fortunate enough to be in a position to help out," said Gresham.

"I knew it was something Bing would approve of, because he was such an avid golfer. He had just finished a round on a golf course in Spain when he died, and I know he would believe this is a worthwhile cause."

Gresham emphasized his gift is a challenge to friends of Northwestern to support the golf team.

"The hope is to drum up some more money for the endowment and keep it growing. The golf program has already progressed with very little outside support," he said. "This endowment, I believe, will help the program continue to progress and that process will go faster as more alumni and supporters lend a hand."

Gresham, who has played in The Crosby for many years, is a high-handicapper who was stunned by the high finish of his team.

"It's a miracle. How else do you explain going from 73rd place in 1991 to second place this year? We just played well, and we really 'brother-in-lawed' like you have to do to score over your heads," he said.

Gresham had played three times in the six months prior to this year's Crosby, and his average score had been 98.

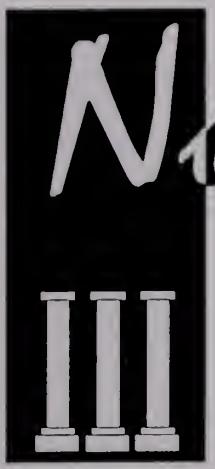
"Somehow, we found that zone that you hear about, and it was some kind of fun," he said.

Perry, a 10-handicapper, was playing in a major tournament for the first time. A gallery of 10,000 and cameras from six television stations gathered around the 18th green as Gresham and Perry came one shot shy of tying for the championship.

University of Texas football coach John Mackovic was part of the winning team.

"John's played in the tournament for several years, so we've become friends. A nice guy won, so that made it easier to take," said Gresham.

N



Northwestern

Alumni Information Update

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are revising our computer system and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Class Notes" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

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Name _____

Last

First

Middle

Maiden

Degree 1: _____ Year 1: _____ Degree 2: _____ Year 2: _____ Degree 3: _____ Year 3: _____

Years Attended: _____

Organizations involved with at NSU: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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New computer software enhances programming

Northwestern is helping train the next generation of computer professionals with the latest software in NSU's degree program in Computer Information Systems.

NSU is the first undergraduate program in the country to use Texas Instruments' Information Engineering Facility (IEF) to instruct its students. IEF is a Computer Aided Software Engineering (CASE) tool that lets computer programmers develop specific computer applications, such as payroll programs more quickly.

"In the old way of programming, the user wasn't normally involved. The programmer was working in isolation, and the end product was something that the user often wasn't happy with," said Dr. Claude Simpson, associate professor of business at NSU. "With Computer Aided Software Engineering, the user is involved all the way through the process which gives the user a greater chance of getting applications that the user wants."

Texas Instruments has worked closely with NSU to set up its undergraduate degree program, making in-kind donations of \$900,000 to assist NSU. The donations include software, education, technical support and course materials which are also made available to students at greatly reduced cost.

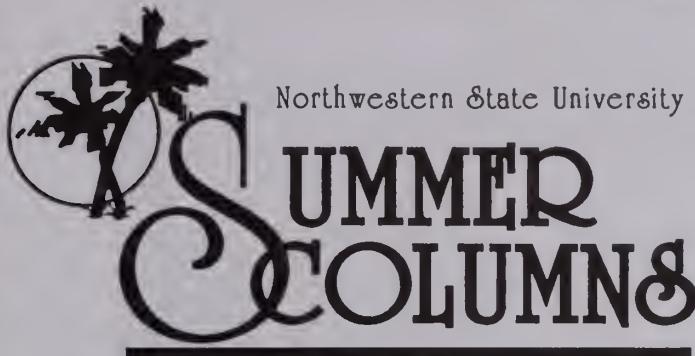
Texas Instruments has also provided extensive training to NSU's Computer Information Systems faculty. To date, NSU's faculty in CIS has taken the equivalent of 40 semester hours of information engineering training from Texas Instruments personnel.

According to Simpson, approximately 600 of the Fortune 1000 companies use IEF.

"There is a critical need for students who are trained in using IEF. The opportunities are tremendous," he said. "We have been receiving calls from colleges and universities around the country who are con-

sidering setting up a similar program. Since we were the first university to use this program in an undergraduate setting, this will be a tremendous asset for Northwestern."

Students will work in a state-of-the-art



IEF lab in Morrison Hall. The lab will contain six 486 processor-based machines obtained under a \$19,900 grant from the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund. The grant was submitted by CIS faculty Dr. Debasish Banerjee, Dr. Jeffrey Palko and Simpson.

"The students will be trained on the most up-to-date equipment. They will be better trained than some of the people who have been in the profession for years," said Simpson.

**Make plans NOW!
Homecoming Oct. 9**

Students intern with National Forest Service

Northwestern has entered into a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service that will provide two graduate level internships to students in NSU's graduate program in cultural resource management. The total value of the agreement is more than \$40,000. This is the first cooperative agreement of its type between the Forest Service and a university in the Southeastern United States.

Under the program, one intern will inventory, document and produce reports suitable for forwarding to the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer for proposed project areas in the Kisatchie Ranger District. Duties will also include site evaluations with the purpose of diminishing the backlog of untested sites.

The second intern will process archeological and historical data into a database that will be incorporated into the Forest Service's Geographic Information Systems database. Other duties may include cataloging and assessing artifact collections.

"These internships will be mutually beneficial for the students, the university and the Forest Service," said NSU Professor of Anthropology Dr. Hiram F. Gregory. "The students will get practical experience dealing with federal agencies who handle parks and archaeological sites. That experience will help them when they graduate and are looking for a job. The university is helped by being able to support its students and the Forest Service gets help where it needs it."

Officials with the Forest Service say that the internships will assist them in some critical areas.

"These internships will help us comply with mandates by having people that can go into the field and do some of the necessary work we have to do," said Kisatchie National Forest archaeologist Alan Dorian. "The Kisatchie National Forest is a wonderful resource base for students. A number of different programs could be available for students in the future and this opens the door for that."

Students in NSU's graduate program in cultural resource management study in a number of areas including archaeology, anthropology, archives, ethnohistory and historical research.

Golng once... golng twlce... SOLD!
The spectacle of the Scholarship Auction returns to Prather Collseum on Saturday, August 21. Reservations can be made wlth the Athletic Association by calling (318) 357-5251.

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